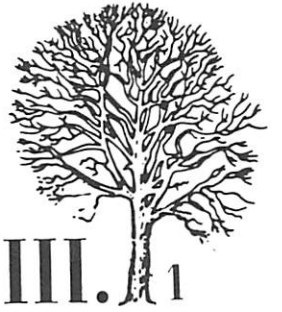


ACORN

VIII. 1



The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Inc.

A society incorporated in 1933 for the preservation of the best examples of the architecture of the province, and for the protection of its places of natural beauty.

President: Alice King Sculthorpe
Immediate Past President: W. J. Moffet
1st Vice-President: Howard Walker
2nd Vice-President: Nicholas Hill
3rd Vice-President: Donna Baker
Treasurer: Robert MacMillan
Secretary: Miss Isabel Coulthard

Members-at-Large: Peter John Stokes, John H. Reckett

ACORN VIII - 1

SPRING 1983

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Inc. R Newsletter

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor-in-Chief: Marion Walker Garland,
86 Augusta St., Port Hope, Ont. L1A 1G9

Editors:

Quinte Region
Tom Cruickshank,
97 Bridge St., Apt. 4,
Picton, Ont. K0K 2T0

Port Hope
Mrs. E. G. Staunton,
R.R. 1,
Port Hope, Ont. L1A 3V5

Toronto Region
Mrs. A. C. B. Wells,
66 Rathnally Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M4V 2M6

Hamilton-Niagara
Gillian Simmons,
449 Bay St. N.,
Hamilton, Ont. L8L 1M9

Heritage Cambridge
Mrs. J. M. Douglas,
24 Ridgewood Place,
Cambridge, Ont. N1S 4B4

Brant County
Mrs. Audrey Scott,
117 Dufferin Ave.,
Brantford, Ont.
N3T 4P9

London Region
Mrs. Nancy Tausky
288 St. James St.,
London, Ont.
N6A 1X3

Huron County
Miss K. Reid,
Bayfield, Ont.
Box 2033

North Waterloo Region
Bob Rowell,
31 William St. W.,
Waterloo, Ont.
N2L 1K2

Contributing Editor: Peter John Stokes

The Cover

The McIntosh-Ridley House (See Quinte Region)

EDITORIAL

We have a new branch! Quinte Region (Belleville) has become the ninth and most easterly branch and heads the list on page 1 of ACORN.

Kevin S. Campbell is the new president and Tom Cruickshank will be the editor for ACORN. These are two most active young men.

It is interesting to note that two members of the new branch are also members of the ACO Advisory Board: Roy Turner and Roger Greig.

The new branch encompasses the area served by Belleville, Trenton, Napanee, and Picton.

After reading the Quinte Region news, sent in well before deadline, we realize, and would like to emphasize, that one of their first jobs is to educate. Educate the public in their area as to the architectural quality of the buildings. Once the citizens begin to be aware of their heritage through house tours, brochures, letters to the editor, and other devices, the local councils will have to take notice. And then your battle is half over.

We welcome Quinte Region to the ACO family.

And now a word to the branch editors. Please do not send us your membership lists. These should be sent to Mrs. Margaret Wulff, A.C.O., 191 College Street, Toronto, M5T 1P7. The master list of A.C.O. members is kept in Toronto. When it is time to send out ACORN, Mrs. Wulff sends name stickers down to Port Hope, and several members of the Port Hope Branch, put them on each ACORN and the copies are sent out from the Port Hope post office. Again, if you have a change of address, please send it to Mrs. Wulff.

Branch editors have been asked not to send in newsletters to us. They are asked to write their own copy and send it in. Newsletters which come to us are put in the wastebasket — unread. There is no time to sift through newsletters, deleting the social and personal news, and reminders to pay membership fees.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In October we received a serious shock; we discovered that our charter had lapsed and in fact had done so four years ago. This happened because we had changed offices and also office managers. Our mail was never forwarded, and we did not realize that we were delinquent in sending in our yearly information to the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations.

I am extremely pleased to announce that we are incorporated again. However, as a new corporation must have a new name, we are now The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Inc.

I feel very thankful that there has been a happy ending to this distressing issue.

NEWS FROM EAST TO WEST from the Branches

QUINTE REGION

Regular readers of ACORN may have wondered why there has never been a branch of the A.C.O. in a region as rich in architectural detail as the Bay of Quinte area. Well, a number of us who live here have wondered the same thing. After all, the area abounds in a variety of styles, materials and local design treatments. But now the Quinte Region Branch does exist and a membership drive is underway. Our goal is to attract interest from people living in the built-up areas of Belleville, Trenton, Picton and Napanee as well as the surrounding countryside in Hastings, Prince Edward and Lennox & Addington counties.

The catalyst that led to the formation of the Quinte Region Branch is the proposed demolition of the McIntosh-Ridley House, the subject of this month's cover photo. Even in its present condition, most readers of ACORN can surely see that this building should not be torn down. Set appropriately beside the harbour, its imposing proportions dominate the earliest settled area of Belleville. Although an exact date of construction has not been determined, there is sufficient evidence to suppose that it was built c. 1820. However, a careful examination of the interior detail may suggest an even earlier date. Beneath the stucco, the doorcase and sidelights remain. Research has revealed that the house had identical front and rear elevations, which invites comparisons to the Allan Macpherson House in Napanee



The McIntosh-Ridley House
S. Front St., Belleville, in its present condition
Photo by Kevin Campbell

and the Young House in Carrying Place. The brackets along the eaves are probably later additions as is the large frame tail to the rear. Inside, the bake oven and fireplace remain intact (sans mantle) and removal of modern chipboard has revealed panels below the parlour windows.

It is thought that the house was begun by Captain John McIntosh, who was known to be a distiller and a merchant. There is some doubt as to whether he lived here, as the house might not have been completed when he drowned in 1815. Nonetheless, his widow, Martha, stayed on. In 1829 Dr. George Ridley acquired the property and his descendants held the title until the turn of the century. The house was converted to commercial use in 1919 and became known as the MacKenzie Feeds building sometime later.

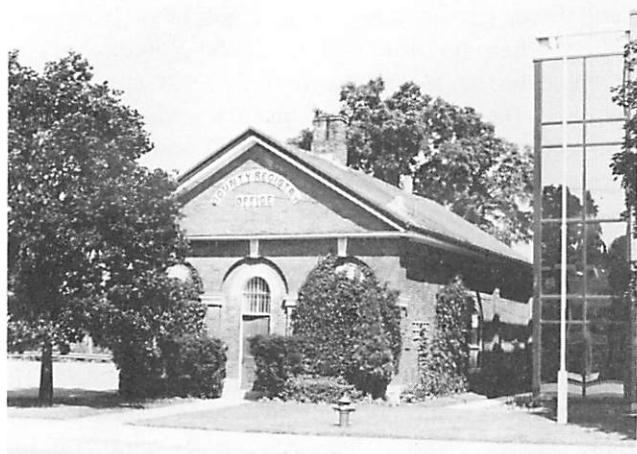
The job of the Quinte Region Branch is to convince the local authorities and the public in general of the obvious potential of the McIntosh-Ridley House and its possible role in injecting new life into the run-down harbour area. A report outlining the significance of the building was prepared by Peter John Stokes, which has generated some interest among city councillors. Meanwhile the Quinte Region Branch, largely through the efforts of Kevin Campbell, has begun a publicity campaign that includes a walking tour of the harbour area February 20th, newspaper and radio interviews and involvement with drafting and photography students from nearby Loyalist College. Students Gina Marin, Janice Wheeler, Tim Gentles and Bart Breedyk will measure the exterior and produce drawings under the direction of their instructor, Glenn Wardell.

Although the owner has a demolition permit, Mr. Campbell has established a good rapport with him and has been allowed around-the-clock access to the building. Currently we are considering the feasibility of paying the municipal taxes on the building for a year until a suitable buyer or alternative use can be found for the threatened house. The branch has also begun soliciting donations towards a trust fund that will be available when similar challenges arise in the future.

Prince Edward County

A project of interest to the A.C.O. is the proposal to convert the old County Registry Office in Picton into a county archives. The building is typical of its kind (with perhaps slightly more ornamentation than examples in neighbouring counties) and is a handsome complement to the adjacent Shire Hall, which

houses the county administrative offices. Since the Department of Land Registry moved to more spacious quarters in 1975, the building has been used for storage. Now the Prince Edward Historical Society has come up with a more appropriate use for this fire resistant structure. They propose that the building be adapted to house geneological records, the Society's papers and its extensive photographic collection. Details regarding budget and staffing have yet to be concluded, but the idea is definitely a good one.



Old Prince Edward County Registry Office
Main Street, Picton

Photo by Tom Cruickshank

The proposed county archives would also make a good permanent home for the Historical and Architectural Survey of Prince Edward. The HASPE project, as it is called, is an exhaustive inventory highlighting the architecture and people of Prince Edward County. Since it was last reported in ACORN VI - 2, about 4,000 of the county's older buildings have been photographed and catalogued into 57 volumes. Currently, registry office research is underway and the search for archival photographs has begun. The project was initiated by the county museum board under the direction of Peter John Stokes. Its scope is large enough (covering ten municipalities) to allow very definite regional architectural peculiarities to emerge, which we plan to illustrate to A.C.O. members attending this year's Annual General Meeting in Port Hope. HASPE is intended to provide basic information to the county LACAC and to be a permanent record of the county's building stock. Ultimately an abbreviated version will be published so that the public can become more aware of the architectural quality in their midst.

Trenton

It is expected that the Quinte Region Branch will

be called upon to provide support for Trenton LACAC to save the old Town Hall and Market House in Trenton. The building is currently occupied by the police department which is looking for a larger modern building. There have been a number of suggestions for the possible sites, not the least of which is razing the old building to make room for a new station.

Designed by renowned architect Kivas Tully, the old Town Hall and Market House was built of limestone in 1861. The reputation of the architect is in itself of great historic significance as is the building's important role in the community. It lost some of its civic importance about 1920 when the town's administration moved to its new hall, but the market continued until recently. The old Town Hall has lost some of its architectural features such as its pillasters, bell tower and part of its gable pediment, but its form is still impressive and it takes little imagination to realize its potential.

In light of the loss of all but the tower of Trenton's new City Hall, demolition of the old hall and Market House would leave very few reminders of the city's historic civic buildings. To prevent this, LACAC has requested that Council designate the building under the Heritage Act.



Trenton Police Station
designed as town hall by Kivas Tully

Photo by Alex Herlovitch

PORT HOPE

Christmas Activities

On Sunday, December 5th, the ACO Christmas Wine and Cheese Party was held at Dunain, the home of Branch President Nancy Redner. At least 150 townspeople and ACO members attended this delightful open house party.

This year, the Port Hope Branch hosted the Grand Winter Ball, an Olde Tyme Christmas event, at

Penryn Park on December 18th. Legions of volunteers decorated the house splendidly, parked cars, kept the fires roaring, arranged a delicious buffet meal, manned the two busy bars, and still found time for dancing in the ballroom to the lively sounds of local group, "The Spice of Life". The ball was a sell-out and Ball Chairman Jane Staunton was pleased to submit a cheque of \$1300 to the Heritage Fund.

The Port Hope Branch also organized the Lamplight Parade this year — another Olde Tyme Christmas event — on December 22nd. Hundreds of carollers gathered at the top of Walton Street in the dusk and walked down the hill, singing carols and carrying lanterns, to gather around the Port Hope Hydro Christmas tree at the foot of the hill for more carol-singing under the leadership of the Oriana Singers and to enjoy hot chocolate generously provided by the Port Hope Hydro. This is a charming Christmas event, popular with children and adults alike (we even had a donkey take part this year!), and a delightful way for any ACO Branch to participate in the Christmas festivities of their area.

Programme News

On November 24th the Port Hope Branch was fortunate indeed in having the opportunity of hearing Dr. Douglas Richardson and Stephen Otto's talk and slide presentation on 19th century architect William Kauffmann, a presentation originally compiled for the Architects Association annual meeting in 1981. Douglas Richardson, professor in the Faculty of Fine Arts, U of T, and Stephen Otto, of the Ontario Heritage Foundation, displayed remarkable sleuthing skills in their historical research on this colourful, but rather neglected Rochester, N.Y. architect of avant-garde cast-iron building. They tracked down and photographed remarkable examples of Kauffman's innovative bridge-building skills and examples of his unique work in Rochester, Toronto, Prescott, Lindsay, and other areas. The Rossin House, a magnificent hotel formerly on the site of the present T-D Centre in Toronto was perhaps the most impressive of his works, inaugurating the style of hotel-shopping mall that is prevalent today. The double slide presentation and taped rendition of the "Rossin House Mazurka" (probably the sole example of a piano composition written expressly to celebrate a building) were most effective.

Cast-iron buildings are extremely uncommon and merit the closer examination that Richardson and Otto have given them. We in Port Hope feel justly proud that the St. Lawrence Hotel, designed also by a Rochester architect, is a fine example of an 1850s building incorporating the innovative cast-iron work of the period.

Programme

On January 27th the Port Hope Branch was variously informed, delighted, and stimulated by our guest speaker Margaret Bailly's talk and slide presentation, "*The Dynamics of Preservation*". Mrs. Bailly is on the staff of the Historical Preservation Section of the Toronto Historical Board. Her talk focused on the incentives and the mechanisms of historic preservation in Toronto and included a fair share of loss and gain situations, vis-à-vis restoration of buildings. Mrs. Bailly, enthusiastic and energetic, displayed her optimism after showing the destruction of the Lithography Building by saying these types of losses can be turned to advantages by a resultant tightening of legislation and the heightening of awareness. The THB has functioned as a LACAC for the City of Toronto since the Ontario Heritage Act of 1974 and Mrs. Bailly illuminated her audience with her explanations of designation procedures, density transfers and amendments to the Official Plan — altogether an extremely interesting evening.

Governor's Road

On February 21st, Heritage Day, the Port Hope Branch enjoyed a fascinating slide show and talk by Mary Byers, co-author of *Rural Routes* and *Homesteads*, on excerpts from their most recent publication, *The Governor's Road*. Mary took us on a visual trip from Mississauga through Oakville, Dundas, Woodstock, Paris and Brantford showing us houses, churches, and public buildings ranging in style from the 1780s Iroquois Chapel outside Brantford, the Cobblestone buildings of Paris, to the gracious house which served as the model for Mazo de la Roche's "Jalna". Mary's commentary on the occupants and histories of these buildings was instructive and humorous. Her research was painstaking and bore fruit of endless fascination for all of us present. (We all hope that Mary will return for another such evening as we were all disappointed when her talk was over.)

Heritage Day

February 21st, Heritage Day, was marked in a very special way this year by the Port Hope Branch. We honoured our own long-time proponent of heritage conservation, Marion Walker Garland, by presenting her with the Heritage Day Award for 1982. Besides Marion's intense task of Editor-in-Chief of these illustrious papers, she is also, as so many of you know, a founding member of the A.C.O. Port Hope Branch and the Port Hope LACAC, serving as Chairman of that Committee's first term and still a most active member. In between her ardent fostering of architectural and historical education, serving as a representative of Heritage Canada, and many years

of volunteer work for historic St. Mark's Church, Marion found time to complete that most useful booklet "*Architectural Terms*" that by now has found its way into so many homes across Canada. Marion represents to all of us the indefatigable spirit and energy of a true believer in the value of historic preservation and our award to her represents our wholehearted admiration, respect and love. Long may she continue to keep that spirit alive in all of us.

Calendar

A 1984 Calendar has been designed by a special committee of the A.C.O. It features 19th century scenes of local houses, buildings, and views of the town from the Long Family Private Collection and from the personal collection of Cal Clayton, LACAC member. 1,500 are being printed and will be available for sale by mid-March. As well as pictures of historic interest with architectural descriptions, there are brief historical notes regarding special events in the Town's history. We feel sales of this handsome calendar will be a major factor in our fund-raising campaign. If you are interested in placing an advance order please contact Calendar Chairman,

Tom Long
5 King Street
Port Hope, Ontario
L1A 2R3

Calendars should be priced around the \$5.00 mark.

Restoration Project

At this date, the Port Hope A.C.O. has raised and directed just over \$20,000 towards Clay Benson's restoration of his commercial building, 25-27 Walton Street. We feel justifiably proud of raising this amount of money since May of last year and equally proud that a concerned local citizen has taken on a project of this sort. The façade of the building has been re-bricked with a specially developed mortar, and the windows remade, and we all look forward to seeing the next stages of restoration when work recommences in the spring.

Restoration Evenings

The fund-raising committee of the Port Hope Branch, co-chaired by A. K. Sculthorpe and Helen Bogyay, has come up with an exciting new series of informative evenings* for the month of March. Four houses and St. Mark's Church have been chosen as the subjects of informal discussion evenings on the perils and pleasures of restoration and renovation. Homeowners involved, who lead the discussion in their own house, are Mr. and Mrs. E. Thom, Miss Winky Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. T. Gale, Mr. and Mrs. Don Rumgay, and at St. Mark's Church, the discussion will be led by the rector's wife, Susan Walker.

* modelled on the Waterloo Branch idea

CCDP Project

The Branch was extremely pleased to receive another CCDP grant to hire three workers for twelve months. The three women hired will commence work at the beginning of February in the ACO, Port Hope Branch's new quarters — the 1875 Greenwood water tower on Peter Street. Projects that the team will be tackling include the compiling of an architectural and historical resource centre, the production of a colouring book featuring places of historical, architectural, or local importance in the Port Hope-Cobourg area, the production of a Port Hope almanac, and the administration of the Annual Historic House Tour, slated for Saturday, October 1st, this year. The manager of the project is Mrs. Jane Tottenham, information officer is Sally Rogers, and the colouring book co-ordinator is Margaret Round. We wish them all good luck for their busy year ahead.

TORONTO REGION

In view of Toronto's decline into high intensity gas discharge lighting, — with some areas of Toronto coloured blue from mercury vapour, and others orange from sodium vapour — Toronto Branch arranged a public seminar on the subject of street lighting.

"The City After Dark" took place early in 1932. Our speaker, Ralf Kelman is an international authority on the subject, and believes that man-made lighting should approximate, as nearly as possible, natural light. At the present state of technology, that is incandescent.

The argument against incandescent light is that it wastes energy and manpower. High intensity lighting is, depending on its size, four to six times more efficient than incandescent.

Another argument used against incandescent lighting is the "law and order" need for brighter lights. However, many of the cities in the United States that have gone to high-intensity lights have created their own psychological problems. High intensity lighting, with its surrealistic effect, is no place to enjoy the night. Kelman believes "you can't manipulate crime with light — all you do is shift it around a bit."

Ralf Kelman is no stranger to our city. In 1973 he persuaded a group at Toronto City Hall, led by Alderman William Kilbourn, to stop the scheduled installation of high pressure, sodium vapour lights on Yonge Street from Eglinton to the City Limits. The Committee on Public Works at its meeting of May 22, 1973, decided that:

"before any mercury vapour or sodium lamps are installed, each location be submitted to the Committee on Public Works prior to any work being undertaken."

When this decision was made, the thrust was not only to preserve the incandescent system but also to preserve the actual fixtures and standards.

Fixtures today come from catalogues, but in the early days, each neighbourhood made its own lighting, sometimes using local craftsmen. Forest Hill, Rosedale, the Beaches, Palmerston Boulevard and the Islands, for example, still have many of their original fixtures. Some of this hardware dates from the turn of the century.

After the Public Works' decision in 1973, it was discovered that these particular fixtures were being taken down by Hydro and sold to collectors for a few dollars. That was stopped when a decision was reached by City Council that fixtures older than 20 years should not be removed without going back to Council for approval.

Ralf Kelman agreed to stay on in Toronto after "The City After Dark", to meet with members of City Services Committee. At this February meeting, he made a verbal and visual presentation in support of incandescent lighting.

As a result of Ralf's presentation, the Commissioner of Public Works was asked to prepare an inventory of lighting in the City of Toronto, and to report on the implications of a direction that the City only install incandescent lighting.

In March 1982, the City Services Committee received the reports. The street lighting inventory listed 35,096 incandescent lights — 85% of the total. Under the heading Energy Saving, the report stated: "An energy saving of 51%, or approximately One Million Dollars per year. Under Serviceability: the lamp-life of a sodium lamp is that it need only be replaced once every four and a half years; compared to the incandescent lamp, needing replacement every six months."

In April, Howard Levine represented Toronto Branch at a meeting of the City of Toronto City Services Committee, and replied to some of the items in the report. Regarding the statement of energy, he said: "The capital cost to convert would be infinitely greater than One Million Dollars; and as the report indicates at the present rate of replacement, it would take at least fifty years to replace all the remaining incandescent fixtures. Therefore, this One Million saving per year is totally misleading."

And to 'serviceability', he said "at the moment, it (incandescent lighting) offers better colour rendition than other light sources. This is changing as reserchers work towards better colour rendition in high presure

sodium. Let us, therefore, wait, and stop converting incandescent lighting to a source that is admittedly inferior. Let us maintain our incandescent street lighting until a better source is perfected." Ralf Kelman came to Toronto nine years ago, to see what was then the only city in North America that was 95% lit by incandescent. Now we've slipped to 85 per cent, and still installing vapour.

Because of the lecture, Ralf Kelman's and Howard Levine's presentations to the City Services Committee, we were able to remind this body of the 1973 agreement to maintain incandescent on Yonge Street north of Eglinton; The Toronto Board has agreed to give consideration of the inclusion of additional street lighting fixtures on the Inventory of Buildings; and all of us involved in this project have a greater appreciation of incandescent street lighting, and will continue to work on maintaining this unique and disappearing form of lighting.

HAMILTON-NIAGARA

The Lax Brothers and the Image of Hamilton

Samuel & Sheridan Lax have applied to the City to develop a Business Park on a landfill site in Hamilton Harbour. Hamilton's Official Plan designates these lands for Park and Waterfront Recreation uses. There are two main reasons why our Branch is opposed to a change in designation and wants adherence of the Official Plan: first, the Image of the city as a whole is at stake and second, we believe that there should be at least one small area where Hamiltonians can have access to their Bay.

An undesirable image of Hamilton is formed by travellers between Niagara and Toronto, who do not even stop off in the city itself but who form their negative opinion from a distance looking on our industrial side. Smelly Hamilton! Who would ever want to live there! We believe this hurts all of us.

On the other hand, visitors to the Rock Garden enjoy a beautiful view of the city core, framed by Caroll Point and York Boulevard, which shows Hamilton rising from the water's edge against the backdrop of the Escarpment. What a splendid view. what a place to live, to establish a business and to have our kids grow up.

However, this view crosses the Lax Brothers' land fill site. If we were to allow a Business Park there, we obtain, right at that all important water's edge, a cacophonous hodge podge of unrelated industrial buildings, whose owners will not lose this golden opportunity to advertise their existence with great big signs. Noisy Hamilton! Smelly and junky! Again, who would ever want to live there!

Yes we need that industry. The more the better!

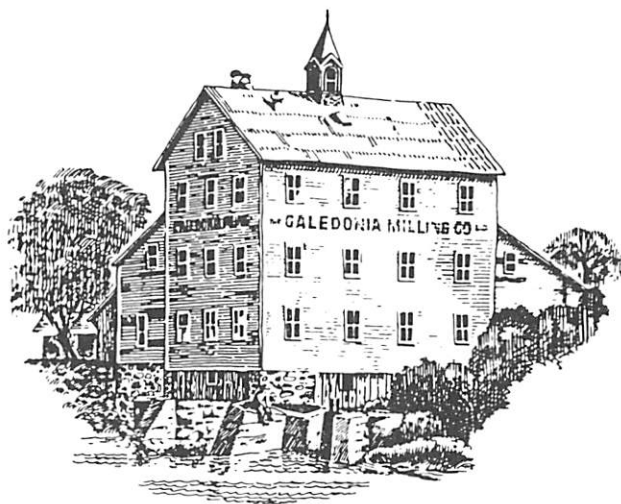
But not there! Of all places, not there; maybe in Hamilton's Industrial Park on Highway 53 at Hannon. We need both the Industry and the Image.

The other aspect is access to our Bay. This land fill site is the only place where we can actually touch the water's edge (at our peril of course). Not only for all the North-Enders, but for all Hamiltonians it is important that we have somewhere we can enjoy proximity of the Harbour. Hamilton's Official Plan makes a point of stating that issue and so does the Hamilton Harbour Advisory Committee's report of February, 1982. We could walk along the edge in all weather and all seasons; row or skate or just sit and watch the sun set over York Boulevard. This small piece of artificial land could be transformed into a people place with the planting of trees and the building of paths. Not only would we regain access to the water, which has been denied to us for so long, but we will also screen the Marshalling Yard and visually link up Caroll Point, the Gardens, York Boulevard, Dundurn Castle, our new water front park and the Marinas into one magnificent chain of image-creating scenery. This will do more for the welfare of our city than the few shops that would be placed there and which could equally as well be placed some place else.

Foot-note: On January 12, 1983, Hamilton's Planning and Development Committee soundly rejected Lax's bid for an industrial designation.

Hamilton-Niagara Visits Caledonia

On Saturday, September 25, our Branch toured Caledonia to study its 19th Century architecture and acquaint ourselves with some of its urban problems. We arrived by bus and began our walking tour at the Presbyterian Church where we were welcomed by the Rev. McMillan and Mrs. Earl Gillespie who gave a brief history of the Church. This church, designed in 1898 by architect Lawrence Monroe, is built in a



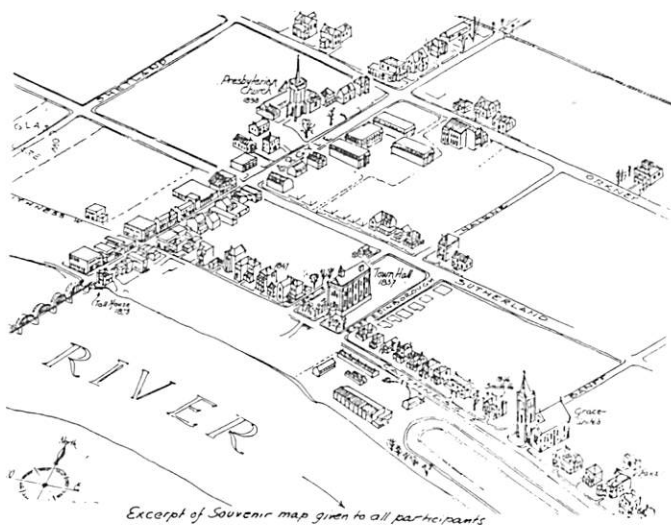
THE CALEDONIA MILL

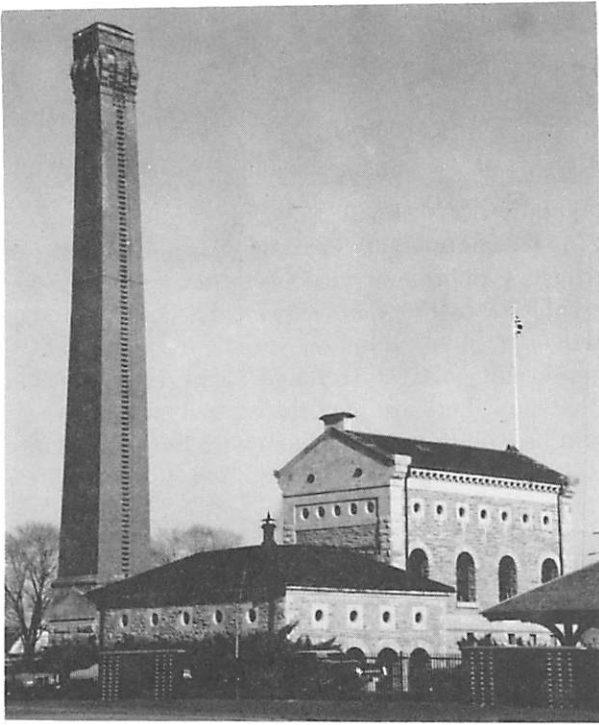
romantic version of the neo gothic style with touches of the Arts and Crafts Movement.

Leaving the church, we walked along Argyle Street (see map), towards the bridge and observed the remnants of the 19th Century streetscape, much of it hidden under subsequent accretions of newer facing materials. We turned at the charming, but dilapidated polychrome brick Toll House of 1875, built as the home of the tollcollector on the Hamilton-to-Port-Dover-Plank-Road, and we continued along Caithness Street East and paused at the 1847 Neo-classical House at #46 with its 1890 two-storey porch. Then on towards the Town Hall of 1857 in its lovely setting of Edinburgh Square. Inside, we found the auditorium on the second floor was still completely intact although some of the finer details such as the proscenium arch were largely hidden by plywood. An alteration is now underway to transform the building into a much needed museum which will unfortunately cause the loss of many of these features. From there towards the Smith House of 1847 in Georgian style where Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Smith graciously opened their house to us. We all took pleasure in the interior with its tasteful furnishings. On our way to the Hand House, we passed Grace United, designed in 1877 by Walter Sheldon, in poly-chrome brick and in a Neo-Romanesque style. The Hand House was built in the 1890's and has a fine porch and interior in Eastlake style.

The bus took us to the park at the Dam where Jones' Bakery had prepared a delicious lunch in the picnic shelter. The park is the site of the now vanished woollen and flour mills. After lunch, we toured the last remaining mill of Caledonia's 19th Century industry in its grand setting on the Grand.

From there along Highway 54 to York's Masonic Lodge, Hotel and the Blacksmith Shop. We con-





THE PUMP HOUSE, 1858, Hamilton
Hamilton's Newest Museum
(See page 19 in ACORN VII - 3)

Photo by Thomas Keefer

cluded the tour with tea served at the farm of Alf Peart on the opposite side of the River. This 1832 Neo classical house with its beautiful parlour and cosy winter kitchen seems to be especially designed for such gatherings. It was a fitting finale to a very enjoyable day.

Carel Kippers



HERITAGE CAMBRIDGE

Annual Heritage Awards

It is just ten years since the communities of Galt, Preston, and Hespeler were joined to form the city of Cambridge. This tenth anniversary year is being celebrated in many different ways, with something happening each month. Heritage Cambridge is marking it by instituting an Annual Heritage Awards program. Each year from now on there will be a competition for the most meritorious architectural restorations which have been completed in the Cambridge area. The competition is designed to broaden public understanding and appreciation of the city's architectural heritage and to encourage and recognize outstanding contributions in the field of restoration.

There are two award categories: one for a private citizen for his or her individual achievements, and one for a public body, such as a club, a business or a manufacturing concern. While we are aware of the preservation and restoration work which is done in the city, we hope that more will be brought to our attention. Individual work, particularly, sometimes goes unnoticed. Historical and architectural interest will be recognized, as well as other facets of restoration which may make the work of significance.

Heritage Conservation Districts

At the February meeting, held in the Old City Hall Council Chambers, Paul Dilse, of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture, gave a slide presentation and talk on "The Character of Heritage Conservation Districts". Paul worked in Cambridge during the summer of 1980 as a Heritage planner for LACAC and during the spring and summer of 1981 he served as a Heritage Planning Consultant for the City. Heritage Conservation districts have met with some opposition, particularly from realtors who feel property values in such a district will be affected. Studies have proven that indeed property values are affected, — they increase. Through the fourth stage of the BRIC program funds will be made available for renovation to properties in such a district. Such a fund could provide the means for exciting improvements to a whole area of Cambridge. The public needs to be made more aware of the advantages of Heritage Districts.

Another feature of our February meeting was the introduction of the new Heritage Cambridge Annual Awards Competition.

October House Tour

Heritage Cambridge will be holding a House Tour on Saturday, October 16th — the Saturday after Thanksgiving. A committee is working out the details under the chairmanship of Sylvia Takacs. Mrs. Takacs is a former alderman of the City of Cambridge. Enquiries about tickets may be made to Mrs. Wm. Law, 31 Pollack Avenue (telephone 519-621-9033). Tickets should be available in September.

Joy Rayner Honoured

On Heritage Day, February 21, a select group of people were invited to Rideau Hall in Ottawa. The Governor General gave a special reception to honour the efforts of citizens across the country to preserve heritage buildings and districts. It also marked the tenth year of the operation of Heritage Canada. Joy Rayner was invited to attend because of her many contributions to heritage work in Cambridge. Cambridge's mayor, Claudette Millar was honoured as well. Mrs. Rayner is now director of Heritage Cam-

bridge. She worked for the city planning department until budget cuts caused the elimination of her job, and was the city's representative on LACAC. As a planner, Mrs. Rayner worked out an agreement which provided provincial BRIC funding grants for historically designated buildings within the city. She also was directly involved with Cambridge's application to Heritage Canada for funding for the city's Main Street Program. She continues to take an active interest in all heritage affairs. Her dedication, experience, and tact make her a most valuable worker, and Heritage Cambridge is delighted to have her on its Board.

Preston Walking Tours

In December, Heritage Cambridge proudly presented its newest publication, the combined CAMBRIDGE MILLS WALKING TOUR & PRESTON WALKING TOUR. The occasion was a general meeting held at "The Button Factory" restaurant, and the speaker was John Clare, chairman of the group responsible for the production of the tours. Mr. Clare is a member of an old Preston family and grew up knowing a lot about not only the old houses mentioned, but also the people who once lived in them. Old pictures of Preston, and an early map of the town were there to be looked at after the talk, while members enjoyed hot cider and Christmas goodies. We were sorry to learn that this delightful restaurant, in a splendidly restored heritage building, had to close soon after the New Year. We can only hope that the better economic times will permit it to reopen. The Preston Walking Tours are in one publication, well illustrated, and with maps. They are for sale for \$2.00 a copy, and may be obtained at the Cambridge Camera Shop, 639 King E., the Etcetera Shop, 761 King E., and the Market Book Store, Ainslie St. N., as well as at the local libraries and the Chamber of Commerce.

Pierre Berton's Visit

February is Heritage Month and several activities have made it of special significance to Cambridge this year. On February 7th, along with numerous other people, members of Heritage Cambridge attended a dinner given to mark the opening of the Heritage Canada Main Street Program. The dinner was sponsored by the Cambridge Business Improvement Association, which, along with the City and Heritage Canada, is backing the program. The speaker was Pierre Berton. Mr. Berton spent the whole day in Cambridge visiting many of the buildings and meeting the merchants in the core area where the program is to be developed. He was ac-

companied by Don Macintosh, the co-ordinator for the program. Mr. Macintosh will spend three years in Cambridge implementing the project. The total business community has given its support to the plans and pledged \$30,000 to help forward them. Mr. Berton's visit was a happy beginning.

Presentation to Council

In recognition of Heritage Day, Tom Ritson, Heritage Cambridge's vice president, gave a special presentation to the Cambridge City Council. It consisted of a slide exhibition, and a discussion of the purpose and goals of Heritage Cambridge. As many of the councillors are new this year it was felt that it would be well to acquaint them with our organization.

BRANT COUNTY

The Brant County Branch's Annual Reports included mention of their display. The permanent, mounted portion of the display is presently attracting visitors at Brantford's Courtesy Centre in the former Bank of Nova Scotia Building at Colborne and Market. In addition, our library of books and pamphlets is steadily increasing. We have added a series of "Old Brantford" hasty-notes to our sales items. In spite of xeroxing costs, we continue to distribute literature describing various structures in the county.

A Canada Community Development Programme grant has been received by the Conservancy for seven months' work on its survey of Brant County, plus promotional activities. Hired by the Conservancy for the project have been a project manager, a photographer and an artist. All three workers are acting as a team in photographing, recording and cataloguing the buildings in Brant County from an archaeological point of view.

The community outreach efforts of the branch have increased in spite of lack of members and workers. About 30 individuals or groups requested information which the Conservancy was able to supply. Slide shows were taken to several community groups. The Board of Education copied our slides on Church Architecture. A comprehensive slide show of the Dufferin Area has since been completed.

As usual, two Newsletters were distributed advertising the concerns of the Conservancy. A record of the Nixon House in St. George was produced. Information about restorations continue to be disseminated.

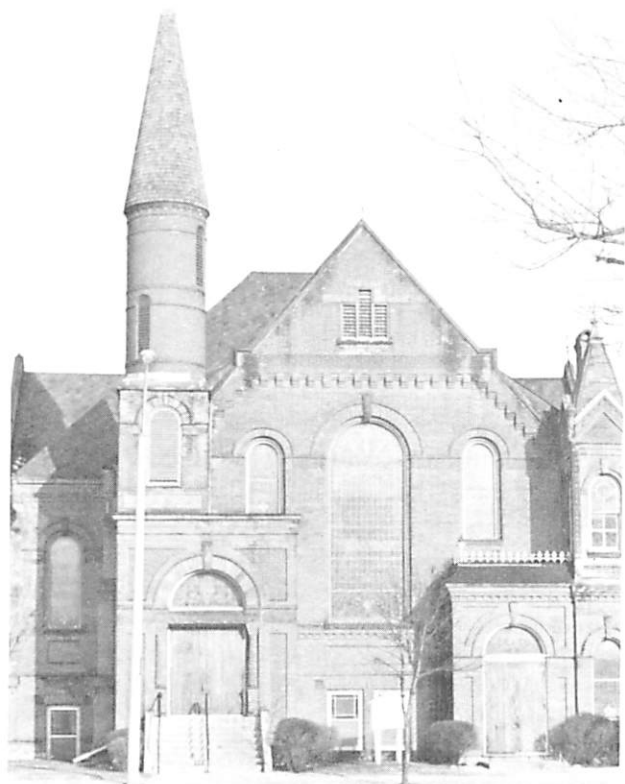
Commercial awards have been presented to the following Brantford properties: Penman's Division of Dominion Textiles on Grand River Ave.; Frost and Smits Law Office at 37 Wellington St., and Dr. H. Avison's Optometric Office, 148 Brant Ave. As well, two churches on our annual Christmas Week Tours

were honoured with awards: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, the former Calvary Baptist at 260 Dalhousie St., for its exterior, and Colborne Street United Church, at 360 Colborne St., for interior features.

The Penman's plant is one of the few local industrial structures to be upgraded by its owners. Mr. M. Apavoo, Plant Manager, was instrumental in having much of the restoration work done at cost by local workmen. The structure has good proportions with relieving buttresses between windows arranged vertically, bringing the eye to a culminating cornice.

Frost and Smits Barristers & Solicitors are located in an Italianate structure with appropriate brackets and curved window heads. A closed-in porch has some Neo-Gothic wooden detailing.

Dr. Avison has been restoring his business office since its purchase, and has been successful in retaining many of the building's older features, as well as adding modern elements such as an attractive solarium.



The Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints.

(Photo Jackalyn Haynes)

Restored and in use have been the interior shutters on many of the windows; plaster ceiling modillions in the main downstairs rooms, heavy plaster mouldings defining walls and ceilings in the main rooms, and the beautiful double doors to the main entrance.

The exterior of the building, in the Late Victorian Italianate style, is marked by elaborate cornice brackets and rounded and semi-circular window heads. The windows are surmounted by especially fine head-moulds with keystones, which help to make the building a first quality structure, especially in its restored form. Landscaping and compatible signs are the finishing touches to the building.

The former Calvary Baptist Church (presently The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints) was built and maintained until about 1972 as Calvary Baptist Church. In the Scottish Baronial Neo-Romanesque style in keeping with its date of 1886, the building exhibits exterior design features such as vertical windows with rounded tops and brick moulded arches, rusticated brick decorative surfaces around the main door, brick corbelling in a pattern of small arches outlining the main gable, and iron work finials on many of the roof details. The brick is of local red clay.

There is a left hand turret with conical roof, triple façade windows proclaiming the Trinity, and, a right-hand door enclosed by a rectangular surround with painted ironwork balustrade. The latter is currently used as the main entrance.

Colborne Street United Church is of grey brick with heavy buttresses on the exterior, a legacy of the original Romanesque style. The large central window which reminds us of the church at Exeter in England, contains a circle at the top divided into a quatrafoil. The circle stands for eternity (no beginning, no end), the quatrafoil, for the four gospels. There is a half of a quatrafoil over the two side windows.

The sanctuary on the upper floor is entered by large doors, and the size of the auditorium is extremely impressive at first glance. Organ pipes dominate the chancel area, surrounded in wood, carved with classical motifs. Again tripartite arches are a feature. The choir area is dominated by curving pews on a high central pulpet with the Holy Table below. Neo-Gothic designs on pulpit furniture are fairly standard.

Tall columns with Ionic or curved volute style capitals dominate the central area of the church. There are four of these pillars on each side of the nave.

Colborne United Church contains many details, classically inspired or with the eclectic nature peculiar to Canada. Its members have maintained the structure over the years and it is to be hoped will continue to do so both as a monument to the past and also as an inspiration to the future.

Programmes

Programmes for the Conservancy included an annual meeting in October, a general meeting in

November, the Church tours in December, and the January tour of Dr. Avison's office.

The programme for the annual meeting consisted of comments and questions on restoring old houses. Mr. Steve Talos, part owner of Wynarden or Yates Castle, outlined the joys and difficulties of undertaking a major restoration.

According to Mr. Talos, the first step in any restoration is information gathering. In the case of Wynarden, old photographs and drawings were available. Details on the photos were blown up and patterns made for the woodwork.

Satisfactory workmen to do the job is the next problem, and often involves considerable search. References and former job-sites must be checked out for each of many types of construction workers. If the owner supervises the work himself, thousands of dollars can be saved.

Next, a viable use for the building must be found if it is to be used commercially to generate funds to pay for itself. Sources of revenue such as grants from the Ontario Heritage Foundation can be looked into. Although various types of grants are available, requirements are strict and much red tape is often involved. "Innards", such as required electrical systems, plumbing and heating must be contended with in any major restoration. Often the costs of such installations greatly exceed expectations, said Mr. Talos.

In the specific case of Wynarden, exterior restoration involved cleaning of the brick. Chemicals had to be carefully chosen because of the iron oxide used previously to dye the brick. Repairs to the brick itself were costly and extensive in view of the fact that there are enough bricks to build a house in the chimneys alone, said Mr. Talos. Each of the chimney bricks required cutting twice because of the shape and location, and ground and sanded by hand.

As for the woodwork, pine and oak were the woods largely used. Original woods were unable to be duplicated. Examples of many of the wooden trim pieces – fortunately preserved on the premises by the Talos family – were shown at the meeting.

Obtaining roofing slate was one of the biggest obstacles in the restoration of Wynarden. In fact, Mr. Talos himself removed many of the slates from the Central School roof. Each piece had to be pried up separately and either carried down the three flights of stairs, or lowered in buckets in 6-piece lots weighing 40 pounds each. Now the entire roof with its high, sloping sections has been or will shortly be repaired.

Mr. Talos mentioned the extreme satisfaction that the restoration has given the family, despite the problems, actual physical labour, political problems and problems in funding. He mentioned the difficulties



Wynarden or Yates Castle (Photo Susan Currie)

encountered in securing an upgraded street access through the city, and in dealing with a city council which is unsympathetic to heritage preservation and to the rights of property owners. The pride of ownership, he said, was a legacy from his Hungarian ancestor who had given up one life as a head coachman to Emperor Franz Josef of Hungary and made a new life for himself and his descendants in Brantford, Canada, with the purchase of Yates Castle from the Yates family.

Said Mr. Talos, "We must become politically active in order that a sympathetic council offer tax incentives, grants and moral encouragement" to restorers of old buildings. Once we have a sympathetic council, he said, "Conservation will improve, expand and multiply".

Mr. Bill Moffet of the Conservancy was the speaker for the November general meeting. Mr. Moffet explained that the Industrial Revolution has changed life on the planet immeasurably. It began in England in the 18th century. Manufacturing plants began to take the place of cottage industries. Manufactured goods had to be brought to ports for trade and to city centres for distribution. As the railroad had not been invented, and until it took over as the chief method of freight distribution, canals became the channels of industrial commerce.

These canals were very narrow, said Mr. Moffet. They intersected the country like a spider's web. So many of them are still navigable that maps are issued which trace possible routes covering 5,000 miles, and list inns and other stopping places. Canal barges were drawn by horses in the early days, with an intricate network of towpaths and crossing-bridges. Currently the barges are diesel-powered. They still copy the originals as was demonstrated by the slides, with brightly-patterned wooden cabins. Dimensions are 7'

wide by as much as 70' long. An intricate lock system takes care of a variety of water levels. Many of these locks are self-operated. Bridges and tunnels are engineering wonders of another age in connection with the canals.

In all, informative and interesting programmes kept Conservancy members and adherents busy this fall and early winter.



LONDON REGION

A.C.O. Programs

Our fall and winter programs were all concerned with local affairs. In October, Miss Alice McFarlane showed slides of various buildings connected with London's history. Miss McFarlane, a retired teacher and an active member of the A.C.O., began taking photographs of interesting buildings several decades ago, and her collection contains valuable photographs of buildings which might otherwise be forgotten. Her slide presentation was accompanied by Miss McFarlane's lively and knowledgeable commentary of the buildings and the people who used them.

In November, A.C.O. members visited Banting House, the house where Dr. Frederick Banting lived and practiced when he conceived the idea, in 1920, which led to the discovery of Insulin. The Canadian Diabetes Association has purchased and renovated the house, and the London and Region Branch of the Association has its offices there. Mr. Victor Mitrow, Chairman of the Banting House Committee and of the London and District Branch, gave a tour of the house and a talk on the history of the building.

Our speaker in December was Mrs. Eha Einola, former president of the London A.C.O. and former chairman of the L.A.C.A.C., who spoke on good and bad ways to treat the exteriors of period houses. Her talk ranged from a discussion of windows and verandahs to a consideration of cleaning (or not cleaning) old brick, and painting versus siding. She illustrated her claims with relevant slides of buildings in the London area.

Our first meeting of the new year took place in February, when Miss Elizabeth Spicer helped us celebrate the anniversary of the A.C.O. by giving a history of our own branch, entitled "London's Journey: From the Bastille to Geraniums." Miss Spicer, former librarian of the London Room in the Public Library, has been involved with the London A.C.O. since its founding on July 14 (Bastille Day), 1936. She pointed out that, instead of storming walls, the early London A.C.O. was very directly interested in preserving walls — in particular, those of threatened buildings in

the immediate neighbourhood of London's 1829 Court House. They met with success when John Labatt Limited restored the three buildings at 435, 443 - 47. and 451 Ridout Street. During the last decade, the activities of the London branch seem to have been directed towards fostering an appreciation of our architectural history and an interest in its preservation. Our main project is the annual Geranium Walk.

This year's walking tour, of buildings in North London, is scheduled for Sunday, June 5th. Anyone wishing tickets in advance should write to the A.C.O., P.O. Box 22, Station B, London, Ontario N6A 4V3.

The February meeting was presided over by our new president, Mary Jane Eldridge, who is replacing Netta Brandon. We are grateful to Netta for two years of gracious efficient leadership, and we congratulate Mary Jane for her new office. Other officers are Julia Beck, Vice-President; Bill Hitchins, Treasurer; and Ruth Chapman, Secretary.

L.A.C.A.C.

The L.A.C.A.C. has just completed the first phase of an inventory of significant buildings. The list of 175 buildings includes important buildings in the core area, south London, and north-central London; other parts of the city are to be covered later. The current list is to be submitted to the Planning Committee in February.

Since 1975, the L.A.C.A.C. has published four illustrated books dealing with London's historical and architectural heritage. The first of these, *Reflections on London's Past*, by Frederick H. Armstrong and Daniel J. Brock, describes fourteen locations (buildings and sites) of architectural and historical significance, and lists several others. *The Historic Heart of London* and *The South & the West*, by John H. Lutman (published in 1977 and 1979 respectively), give detailed accounts of particular areas of the city. The fourth in the series, *The North & the East*, by John H. Lutman and Christopher L. Hives, has just been published. Like Mr. Lutman's earlier volumes, *The North & the East* gives general histories of the areas considered, along with suggested walking tours within those areas, detailed comments on the former owners and uses of various buildings on the tours, and some observations about architectural characteristics. All of these books can be purchased from the City Clerk's Office (Rm. 308, City Hall, att. Miss Terry LaFrance). *Reflections on London's Past* costs \$1.50; the others are \$4.95 each.

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, Lucan

Local heritage groups are rejoicing over Bishop John Sherlock's decision to preserve St. Patrick's

Roman Catholic Church in Lucan. The white brick church is a good example of early Gothic Revival architecture in south-western Ontario, and it has several significant historical associations. It was built in 1859; the architect may have been John Tully, who designed the old St. Peter's Cathedral in London (torn down in 1885, after the present St. Peter's Basilica was erected). The very elegant Italianate rectory adjacent to the Church was constructed in 1869. There is some evidence that it was designed to serve as the summer residence for the London Bishop as well as providing a rectory for St. Patrick's, and it may have been designed by William Robinson, who was also the architect for the Bishop's Palace in London, erected in 1870. In any event, the setting and design of the rectory were clearly meant to complement the church, and the two buildings, still in their original rural setting, form a strikingly harmonious architectural unit.



St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church
Photo by George Blumson of *The London Free Press*

St. Patrick's greatest fame comes from its association with the notorious Donnelly massacre of 1880. Both of the Catholic factions whose feuding precipitated the murders worshipped at St. Patrick's Church, and the Donnellys lie buried next to the men who buried them in the St. Patrick's churchyard.

The recent threat to the church occurred when the present congregation found it inadequate for their needs. Part of the congregation favoured adding to

the present structure; others, mainly recent arrivals from Europe, felt that they could not relate to the church's history, and that a new, more efficient building would serve them better. Since the congregation was quite evenly divided over the decision, the matter was settled by the Bishop. In thanking the A.C.O. and other groups for their interest in the issue, Bishop Sherlock claimed that such interest had played an important part in his decision.

The next step for the congregation is to develop plans for a sympathetic addition. The London firm Haggarty-Buist Architects is working on the project.

'The Selby' and the Chapter House

Local heritage groups are less enthusiastic about another "heritage" project here. Several organizations, including the A.C.O. and the L.A.C.A.C., wrote letters to Heritage Canada objecting to the Credit Foncier Award to 'The Selby', a converted shoe factory. Although Heritage Canada replied apologetically, it has not yet made any public apology, and, much to our annoyance, high praise was given to 'The Selby' in the February - March issue of *Canadian Heritage*.

At the time the award was made, Heritage Canada did not know that the developers of 'The Selby', Canadian Income Properties Incorporated and Karas Corporation, had demolished a much finer and more important building. The building they tore down was a Chapter House, built in 1872 as the first step towards an Anglican cathedral on the site. The moving force behind the would-be cathedral was Bishop Isaac Hellmuth, and his high ambitions for the site are indicated by the fact that he hired the renowned Gordon Lloyd, a Detroit architect, to design the cathedral complex. Only the Chapter House was ever built. When Hellmuth left London in the early 1880's, his successor, Bishop Baldwin, abandoned the rather grandiose cathedral project. The Chapter House be-



The Chapter House in the Process of Demolition
The London Free Press

came a lawn-bowling club, a girl's school, a tea company, headquarters for the Department of National Defense, and, most recently, the Eastern Star Temple.

In 1908, its beauty was largely obscured by the erection of the Murray - Selby Shoe Factory in its front yard. After the factory closed down a few years ago, both the building and the Chapter House were purchased by local developers intending to convert 'The Selby', as it was re-named, into a boutique and restaurant complex. The developers were given detailed accounts of the architectural value of the Chapter House; they nevertheless chose to demolish the Chapter House in favour of a parking lot. To honour the men who tore down the Chapter House for their contributions to heritage preservation is to dishonour what should be an inspiring award.

The Society of Industrial Archaeology

London had the more pleasing honour of hosting the Fall Tour of the newly formed Ontario Society of Industrial Archaeology. The Society took a detailed look at three structures: The London Hosiery Mills at 646 Adelaide N., constructed soon after 1915; The London Soap and Cosmetic Company, at 197 South St., with parts dating from 1873; and Blackfriars Bridge, a prefabricated wrought iron bridge opened to traffic in 1875.

A Plea for Help

Walter and Mary Jane Eldridge, of the Photographic Conservancy of Canada, are carrying out a study of Canadian photographers active in Western Ontario between 1840 and 1920. If you have any information concerning this subject, or if you are related to a photographer who was active in this period, please contact the Eldridges at P.O. Box 1953, Stn. A, London, Ont. N6A 5J4 or phone (519) 673-1840.

NORTH WATERLOO REGION

Fall Lecture Series

The Fall series was a resounding success. The concept of having the lectures in various houses, with the owners explaining the work that had been done on them, was well received. The houses toured included a board-and-batten house restored by B. Napier Simpson Jr. A Victorian house extensively altered in the 1920's, a 19th Century frame house, an owner-rehabilitated Edwardian house, and a modernized Victorian house. The latter was perhaps the most fascinating; the owner had taken a smallish Victorian house and had designed and built a large modern addition to the rear. The front façade and the front rooms retained the Victorian flavour; the new portion tied in quite neatly and included open-concept multi-

level rooms, a second-storey greenhouse, a thoroughly modern kitchen, and a large pottery kiln in the basement. The kiln is designed so that it can be removed from the house should the owner ever move. Even the garage, which is usually accepted as a one-storey building, provided a challenge to the owner. The result has another garage underneath, providing machine and tool storage and repair space, so as to utilize the foundation space efficiently; and the mansard roof shelters a private deck with built in stereo.

We are planning another such lecture series in the spring.

The Christmas party, as always, was a success. Woodside, the boyhood home of William Lyon MacKenzie King, was appropriately decorated for Christmas, and it is beautiful by the light of candle and oil-lamp. Nancy and Ted Maitland's house, which was a partially-burned soaking-wet mess a year ago, provided a warm and comfortable location for the second half of our party. The presence of the newly-restored ceiling stencil made for a party in which everyone always seemed to be looking up.

Our next event is Heritage Day. Dr. Peter Swann, the director of the nearly completed Seagram Museum in Waterloo is to be our guest speaker. This event will be followed by our Annual General Meeting, as well as the Spring Lecture Series.

THE CLEANING OF HISTORIC MASONRY

Perhaps the most visible manifestation of the current fashion for the rehabilitation of older and historic buildings is the cleaning of the exterior masonry. Too often such cleaning results in a dramatic and often shocking change in the appearance and condition of the masonry itself.

The cleaning of any building is a serious matter, and work should be undertaken only after careful evaluation and testing of all possible courses of action. At the present time too many buildings are receiving indiscriminate and often unnecessary cleaning, and no thought is given to the results of another cleaning at a future date.

The well-intentioned architect, seeking advice from a contractor experienced in cleaning masonry, has a choice of mechanical or chemical methods. As his priorities are cost-effectiveness and speed, the choice is too often sandblasting. Sandblasting has become synonymous with the renewal and upgrading of our fashionable inner cities, as it seems an acceptable and progressive choice. Unfortunately it is about the worst course of action that can be taken, as it leads to acute, rapid and irreversible deterioration of most types of masonry. Often a simple washdown

with low-pressure water and detergent will remove most of the loose dirt and often a great improvement in the appearance of a dirty building without the cost and traumatic effects of an intensive cleaning job.

Three major factors must be identified before approaching a cleaning problem:

1. The nature of the soiling on the surface.
2. The base material's nature and condition.
3. The original appearance of the surface.

Dirt is usually made up of a dense crust of soot and dust bound to the surface of the masonry with a glue of deposited material usually related to the host masonry. The base material is often saturated with soluble salts and a range of other unwanted products. The original surface of masonry has a harder, often vitrified outer layer of skin that acts as a protective layer over the softer inner material; in the case of stone-masonry the original tooled surface often possesses an outer harder layer formed as the quarry sap came to the surface as the stone dried out after working. In both instances the sculptural and aesthetic qualities of the material are contained in the surface finish. If we make a decision to clean this material and to try and preserve the outer layer at the same time, the utmost care must be taken tackling the problem: the patination of the stone has become one with the architecture of the stone itself.

Why clean a building at all? Besides the obvious answer it has been shown that a clean building is healthier, that is, less susceptible to deterioration. A dirty masonry surface has a much greater surface area, and therefore attracts more dirt, stays wetter longer, and holds atmospheric pollutants against the surface that react with the masonry and aggravate freeze-thaw and biological problems. A clean building looks better and displays the original appearance of the building to better advantage. The problem is, how far do we go to attain this end? As a building gets old the surface acquires a golden glow known as **noble patina**: this can be a colouration, a burnishing, or it may have other indeterminable qualities; but it is not dirt. If we can remove the dirt and maintain the patina, success is ours. We need not scour the surface down to virgin material to clean it, nor should the outer layer of masonry be removed in the process. This is contrary to most opinions given by cleaning contractors, who like to relate the finished product to an easily attainable norm such as new material.

Successful cleaning of a building can be either extremely difficult or very easy, depending upon the base material and nature of the soiling. Each substance should be identified and a suitable method chosen to aid in the removal of the desired amount of dirt, without harming the original material or damaging adjacent surfaces. Most granite, limestones

and hard brick surfaces can be cleaned with low-pressure water sprays and light scrubbing. This technique is rarely used in Canada, most likely because its use entails no expensive chemicals and it is more labour intensive than some more drastic methods. If properly done, this is the gentlest possible method to clean a building: an example of its application would be the recent cleaning of St. Paul's Cathedral in London, England.

Sandstone is probably the most difficult material to clean successfully, due to the nature of the silica component bonding with the surface dirt chemically. To remove such staining the silica must be dissolved, and the only safe way to do this without destroying the stone itself is to use a mild hydrofluoric acid solution. This is an extremely dangerous and potentially harmful technique if mishandled by the contractor. Hydrofluoric acid etches glass and is very dangerous to health. Great care must be taken with any chemical compound used for cleaning. The secret formulae used by some contractors usually contain something harmful such as Sodium Hydroxide (Caustic Soda) or Hydrochloric Acid (Muriatic Acid).

The alkaline cleaners containing mainly Sodium Hydroxide and related compounds should not be used because they leave dangerous deposits of hygroscopic crystals that can destroy weak masonry by crystallization-stress in the micro-pores, and because they create florescence problems with calcium and sodium-salt deposition. Acidic cleaners containing Hydrochloric Acid must not be used on stone or brick for the same reasons and also because of the great risk of severe staining. These are examples of the problems encountered when dealing with chemicals whose effects are not fully understood by those using them.

A commonly used alternative to chemical cleaning is blast-cleaning. This is a potentially harmful procedure which should be used with extreme caution. Blast cleaning can be done dry or wet, with a great range of aggregates from coarse sands to crushed walnut shells. A stream of material, or often merely high-pressure water, is thrown against the surface to be cleaned and the resultant cutting action removes a layer of material. Irresponsible operators have used this technique to remove paint from soft brick and stone, resulting in the destruction of the face of the masonry; although a similar technique using a micro-abrasive unit is used by museum conservators to clean delicate bronze sculptures with no harm. Even with the best of intentions and careful training of operators this method is almost always unacceptable on historic site. Under normal conditions there is seldom trained or adequate supervision on a job site to ensure total control of the situation and valuable material is destroyed. A close inspection of the north doorway

to the Legislative Library of Ontario in Toronto is in order for anyone considering work of this type. The original sharpness of the tooling has been removed by abrasive blast cleaning.

The less said about blast cleaning of hard, polished surfaces such as granite, glazed brick and terra-cotta, the better. Blast cleaning of brick cuts into the soft body of the material, removing the hard burned surface skin and destroying most of the soft pointing between the units. Any attempt to treat these surfaces afterwards with sealants such as synthetic resins leads to spalling and water vapour condensation problems in the masonry, despite manufacturers' claims of breathability. Silicate treatments can result in caustic alkali byproducts forming in the material; such treatments only last about one year in our climate and are really quite useless.

The cleaning of any building is a serious matter, and work should only be undertaken after careful evaluation and testing of all possible courses of action. A greater awareness is needed among the general public, and among building owners and contractors, as to just how destructive inappropriate building cleaning methods can be; otherwise we stand to lose a great part of our valuable architectural heritage. It should always be kept in mind that the gentlest means of cleaning is often the best; we must remember that the buildings we are cleaning today are not there only for our own use and enjoyment, but are also a trust for future generations.

Spencer R. Higgins, Architect

Mr. Higgins obtained his Bachelor of Architecture at the University of Toronto in 1974, and his Master of Architecture in Urban Design at Harvard University in 1976. He was established in private practice as a Restoration Consultant in 1981. Mr. Higgins is a Consulting Restoration Architect in private practice in Toronto, and specializes in all aspects of masonry restoration.

Although he was born in England, Mr. Higgins is a Canadian Citizen.

CONSERVANCY TOUR

To Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of
The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario

Three Bus Tours Led by Peter John Stokes

Tentative Schedules

Tour #1 — To Ontario West of Toronto June 11th to 12th. Saturday leave Toronto 8:30 a.m. Return Sunday 9:00 p.m.

1st day — Dundas, Brantford, Paris, Woodstock, Norwich, Otterville. Picnic lunch en route.

Dinner 7-7:30 p.m. at Union House, Normandale. Night at Simcoe Motel.

2nd day — Simcoe, Port Dover, Waterford, Mount Pleasant, Ancaster. Lunch at Port Dover. Supper, 6-6:30 p.m. Old Mill Restaurant, Ancaster.

Price, \$125. per person for week-end includes all meals, except breakfast. \$125. per person for double occupancy. Single room slightly higher.

Tour #2 — June 18-19

1st day — Leave Toronto 8:30 a.m. Waterloo Region, Elmira, St. Mary's, Exeter, Seaforth, Clinton and Goderich. Picnic lunch en route. Dinner and night in Goderich. 1st performance in Polley's Livery Theatre — price of ticket extra.

2nd day — Goderich, Bayfield, Blyth, Wingham, Elora. Lunch Bayfield. Supper Elora Mill - 5:30-6:00. Proceeding after dinner to Toronto, arriving approximately at 9 p.m.

Tour #3 — Ontario east of Toronto July 22-25

1st day — Friday — leave Toronto July 22, 8:30 a.m. Colborne, Trenton, Prince Edward County, Picton. Picnic en route. Dinner at Picton. Bed and Breakfast in Picton Houses.

2nd day — Bath, Fairfield White House, Kingston. Lunch, dinner and night in Kingston. Cafeteria dinner, night accommodation and breakfast at Queens University.

3rd day — Westport, Perth, Carleton Place, Almonte, Smith's Falls, Merrickville, Maitland, Brockville. Lunch en route, dinner and night in Brockville.

4th day — Brockville tour, Lyn, Hwy. 2 and 1000 Island Parkway, Sydenham, Harrowsmith, lunch at Harrowsmith, Yarker, Newbury, Camden East, Campbellford, Warkworth, Cassleton, Vernonville, Highway 2, Grafton, Cobourg, Port Hope, supper at Mr. and Mrs. Allen Redner's. Bus back to Toronto. \$250. per person for double occupancy.

To apply for a place on a tour, send your name and address and a deposit of \$75.00 per person for each tour to 191 College Street by May first, 1983. Cheques should be made payable to The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Inc. Payment in full amount must be received by June 1st and would be appreciated earlier.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Last summer the Brantford Branch engaged in an all out fight to save one of Brantford's most important landmarks — The Central School.

The battle was expensive and although our mem-

bers and other Brantfordites contributed generously we are still faced with a \$1700 debt. Without outside help the bulk of this debt will fall on the three members committed to paying it by the end of next month.

Therefore we ask you to help us by sending a donation to:

The Central School Fund
Architectural Conservancy of Ontario
191 Coolidge Street
Toronto, Ontario M5T 1P7

Cheque should be payable to The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Inc. so that you may receive a tax receipt.

Eric Arthur, C.C. 1898-1982

In memory of Eric Arthur, a group of his friends is raising funds for a contemporary sculpture that will enhance a prominent space in University College, Toronto — a building that has been lovingly restored under his direction.

Donations should be made out to The University of Toronto and sent to:

Peter Richardson, Principal,
University College, Room 165,
15 King's College Circle,
Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1

Please mark your cheque: 'Eric Arthur Memorial'

A receipt for tax purposes will be issued by the University.

Anthony Adamson	Spencer Clark
Claude Bissell	Beatrice Davidson
June Callwood	Pauline McGibbon
Howard Chapman	

NEWS FROM OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

THE ONTARIO HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Sudbury to Host Northeastern Ontario Heritage Festival

Ontario Heritage Foundation chairman, John White, announced that the "Northeastern Experience II" heritage festival will be held August 26-28, 1983, in Sudbury. The Foundation has allocated \$48,000 to the project which it will stage with the cooperation of heritage groups, museums, schools and history buffs in the region (districts of Algoma, Sudbury, Manitoulin and Parry Sound).

"The festival is a multi-media exploration of the people, places, activities and events that have given

Northeastern Ontario a distinctive place in Ontario's history", said White. "It's a rare opportunity for existing heritage groups to get together and share their ideas and experiences and for the general public to enjoy and explore their past . . . a past they have every right to be extremely proud of".

PARKS CANADA

New Policy on Federal Heritage Buildings

The Government of Canada is the largest single owner of heritage buildings in the country. A new federal policy to promote the conservation of these important architectural and historic resources was announced in October at the annual conference of the Heritage Canada Foundation.

The policy is a commitment by the Government of Canada to renovation, restoration, and recycling and makes the conservation and protection of federally owned heritage buildings a government objective.

A federal Heritage Buildings Review Office has been established to identify and evaluate federally owned heritage buildings and to give direction for the protection and conservation of these buildings for the future. The review office will be supported by staff and other Parks Canada resource.

All Government of Canada owned buildings 40 years old or older will be evaluated for their heritage value. Those having the highest heritage significance will be designated as either CLASSIFIED or RECOGNIZED federal heritage buildings.

The policy recognizes local, regional, and provincial attitudes and allows for public input and independent assessment whenever there is disagreement or controversy regarding a building's designation or preservation requirements.

WENTWORTH HERITAGE VILLAGE

Rocton, Ont.

Heritage Village Sets Attendance Record

Wentworth Heritage Village announced a record breaking increase in attendance for the 1982 season. The Village, located on Hwy. 52 north of Rocton, received 33,127 visitors which is its highest ever attendance figure.

AURORA AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The first stage of the restoration of Hillary House is nearing completion. The verandah floor, roof and treillage have been repaired and replaced where necessary. The elaborate king posts and vergeboards have been restored and missing elements renewed. The chimneys have been rebuilt using old brick. The

roof has been clad once again in cedar shingles. Perhaps the most striking part of the restoration is the new balcony railing, a copy of the original which was taken down some ninety years ago. More mundane, but equally important, are the new south steps to the verandah, eavestroughing, masonry repair and insulation.

The greatest surprise came in the ballroom wing, added between 1869 and 1876. Structural problems necessitated the insertion of a steel beam to support the ballroom floor and the rebuilding of three inner walls. This has increased the cost of the first phase to approximately \$146,000.00 from an anticipated \$130,000.00. Despite major financial support from government, one of our major concerns has been that of paying our bills on time. Grant money is slow to arrive, meaning that we must borrow from the bank to keep the project moving.

John McIntyre

ERIC ARTHUR

Council of the ACO is grateful to members who have sent in donations in memory of Eric Arthur and in recognition of his unique contribution to the Conservatory. If sufficient funds are received, it is hoped to establish an Eric Arthur measured drawing award for architectural students.

THE HERITAGE CANADA FOUNDATION

10th Anniversary Conference

Co-Sponsored by The Ontario Heritage Foundation

Toronto: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

September 22-25, 1983

Royal York Hotel, Toronto

The Heritage Canada Foundation has taken the unprecedented step of asking two internationally-known experts to examine Canada's two largest cities.

The results will be presented at the Foundation's Conference in September and evaluated by panels of leading developers, architects and city planners.

James Marston Fitch, one of the world's leading architectural historians and preservation experts will examine the core of the City of Toronto.

Craig Whitaker, the architect responsible for planning the Hudson River waterfront in Manhattan, will visit both the Montreal and Toronto waterfronts to compare and evaluate their past, present and future.

These two news-making addresses will form the core of the Foundation's ambitious two-day conference in Toronto at the Royal York Hotel, September 23 and 24.

For further information contact:

Conference Co-ordinator

21 Sackville Street

Toronto, Ontario M5A 3E1

Telephone: (416) 868-1974 or 868-1972

TORONTO HISTORICAL BOARD

New Chairman for Toronto Historical Board

The Toronto Historical Board is pleased to announce the election of Mr. Warren Davis as the Board's new Chairman, succeeding Mr. Andrew Gregorovich who had completed the maximum tenure of three terms. Mr. Davis has worked for the CBC as an Announcer for 30 years. Currently, he is host of a number of shows on the CBC-FM Network.

Warren Davis was appointed to the Toronto Historical Board in 1976 and was re-appointed in 1979, both for three year terms. In 1980 he was elected to the Board's Executive Committee and to the Chairmanship of the Plaques, Publicity and Publications Committee.

The Toronto Historical Board is comprised of seventeen members appointed by City Council to maintain and operate historic sites owned by the City of Toronto and to advise Council on all matters relating to buildings of architectural and historical importance.

WHAT BERMUDA IS DOING

From the Bermuda National Trust Newsletter

Once upon a time within living memory Bermudians were able to roam the island pretty freely. Remnants of fishermen's paths can still be found along the South Shore, and most older Bermudians can remember the many stretches of wild bushland which they enjoyed playing in as children. But change since then has been so rapid that over the space of a few decades much of this land has become housing, and the island has made the major transition from a mainly rural community to a city and suburbs.

What We Would Like to See

A system of parks throughout the Island. Large parks, medium parks, small parks, pocket parks.

The parks should be connected by the railway right-of-way and tribe roads wherever possible. Where that is not possible, paths along roads should be maintained as park paths. The object is not only to connect the parks — to create an "Emerald Necklace" — but to provide a pathway from one end of the Island to the other.

NEW LICENCE LAW PROPOSED

Licencing of sand blasters and other exterior building cleaners was recommended by Metro Council's legislation and licencing committee a short while ago. A contractor will be required under the proposed by-law to notify the municipality of the location of the building to be cleaned and outline the work and process to be used in cleaning.

VICTORIA BRIDGE, ST. MARY'S

The support of members of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario has been requested by Architectural Heritage supporters in St. Mary's Ontario. They are attempting to gain a hearing under the Environmental Assessment Act in hopes of preserving the longest pre-confederation bridge in Ontario. The Victoria Bridge, built in 1865, is a triple arched stone structure designed by Mr. Niven, P.L.S.

Please, write to the Premier of Ontario, Hon. William Davis; tell him you are aware of the petition by the Canadian Environmental Law Association and that you support it; tell him the bridge is the longest pre-confederation stone bridge in Ontario and deserves to be designated under the Environmental Assessment Act; send photocopies of your letter if possible, to: Hon. Keith Norton, Minister of the Environment; Hon. Reuben Baetz, Minister of Tourism and Recreation; Hon. Bruce McCaffrey, Minister of Citizenship and Culture; Hon. James Snow, Minister of Transportation. All these letters can be addressed: Queen's Park, Toronto, Ont. M7A 1A2.

If required more information is available from R. Lorne Eedy, Box 1030, St. Mary's Ontario N0M 2V0.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

"Continuity With Change"

"Planning for the Conservation of Ontario's Man-Made Heritage" is the subtitle of the book entitled "*Continuity with Change*", containing seven essays on heritage conservation, photographs, charts, maps, illustrations, and diagrams.

The book deals with general policy, protection of landscape and buildings in regional planning, incorporation of historic and archeological sites in provincial parks, protecting townscapes in urban planning and renewal, and retention and use of industrial monuments.

The main theme centres around the idea that traces of man's history on the land are essential to and irreplaceable in the life of any place, rather than isolated relics, unrepresentative of all but a narrow and elitist version of history. Case studies show how historic structures can and do fit into changing land use patterns along the Rideau and Trent-Severn Waterways, and at Gold Rock, Dundas, Niagara Falls, Sandbanks Park and Newmarket.

The book is available for \$10.00 from Publications Services, Ministry of Government Services, 5th Floor, 880 Bay Street., Toronto, Ontario M7A 1N8.

We are always glad to receive pictures which accompany articles. If you wish these pictures returned, please send a stamped, addressed envelope. Ed.

Please send any change of address to your branch secretary and also to Mrs. Margaret Wulff, A.C.O., 191 College Street, Toronto, M5T 1P7. In this way it can be put on the master mailing list.

ACO Inc. Address: 191 College Street, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1P7

All submissions to ACORN please send to Editor-in-Chief, ACORN,
86 Augusta St., Port Hope, Ontario L1A 1G9

ACORN VIII - 1 was produced by Richard's Printing Ltd., Port Hope

POSTES CANADA POSTAGE

No. 128
PORT HOPE, ONT.



ISSN 0704-0083